



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Department for the Aging*

Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

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*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*  
Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Tim M. Catherman  
Deputy Commissioner, Support Services

**DATE:** April 19, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Virginia Aging and AoA in the News

Below are Virginia Aging or AoA related articles that have occurred since last week's Tuesday E-mailing. These links do not require a paid service; however, some (like the Washington Post, etc.) ask a brief survey or registration. Please note some links are time sensitive and can change daily. Some articles may be editorial and/or political. Links are presented 'as is'.

If you are aware of articles that I am missing, please e-mail me a link for inclusion next week.

**VDA**

[Computerized test helps older drivers determine whether they ...](#)

The Free Lance-Star - Fredericksburg, VA

... public and also has distributed copies to the Virginia Department for ... later by prior appointment, I visited the Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging near Falmouth ...

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Ellen M. Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** April 19, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Best Practices - National Family Caregiver Support Program

**Tech World: An Information Portal**

Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc. (MEOC) initiated the **Tech World** project to combat caregiver isolation in March, 2005. Developing an extensive partnership over two years that includes: Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Research Award Fund; LENOWISCO Planning District Commission; Virginia Center on Aging; Norton Community Hospital Ethics Committee; Mountain Empire Community College; University of Virginia's Health Sciences Library Outreach at UVA-Wise; Northeast Tennessee-Southwest Virginia Alzheimer's Association and the Regional Adult Education Program of Lee, Scott, Wise and Norton Public Schools, MEOC Executive Director and Dr. Michael Creedon of the research firm Carlow International developed an intergenerational program to aid isolated family caregivers.

Teen volunteers were trained in the learning characteristics of older students and the realities of caring for Alzheimer's patients and others. A grant funded internet connections for caregivers who needed them. Used computers provided by the Wise County School System are utilized for the program. Teens and caregivers were matched and the learning process began! Caregivers and teens participating in the program gave the collaborative venture great reviews at the last pilot teaching and mentoring session on March 19.

Future plans of the program include more training sessions for caregivers and a presentation on the project at International Rural Network Conference in June. Trained caregivers in the program are enjoying accessing information about caregiving, Alzheimer's Disease and individual hobbies via the internet. Isolation issues are

alleviated as trained caregivers enjoy internet chat rooms 24 hours a day and share their caregiving experiences with others. A series of articles in ***The Post*** newspaper of Big Stone Gap, Virginia is tracking the program's project.

### **Caregiver Nursing Protocol**

Under a grant provided by the Administration on Aging under the National Family Caregiver Support Program, the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging (PCA) has developed **Caregiving Nursing Protocol**: Integrating Nursing Intervention with Social Work Services. The origin of the protocol was a study to determine if providing caregivers with the services of a nurse, as part of a larger caregiver program, would improve the health of the caregiver.

Research has demonstrated that caregivers tend to ignore their own health issues. The PCA study compared the experience of caregivers, evenly split between Caucasians and African Americans, who received nursing intervention with a control group who did not receive these services. Overall findings of the PCA study showed that the presence of a nurse was effective for caregivers dealing with depression and feelings of control over the caregiving situation. PCA then developed the **Caregiver Nursing Protocol**.

The **Caregiver Nursing Protocol** is available from PCA at 642 North Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19130-3409 or phone, 215-765-9000.

# *COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*

*Department for the Aging*

Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** AAA Directors

**FROM:** Bill Peterson

**DATE:** April 19, 2005

**SUBJECT:** **Elder Abuse Prevention Conference**

Attached is the registration packet for the **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse Conference**. The conference will be held on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Virginia Beach Resort and Conference Center.

This conference provides an opportunity for AAA staff to get the latest information about issues and/or best practices related to elder abuse prevention and detection as well as to network with persons from across the Commonwealth who work in adult abuse prevention activities.

Attachment

Eleventh Annual Conference  
Virginia Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

June 2 & 3, 2005  
Virginia Beach Resort & Conference Center  
2800 Shore Drive  
Virginia Beach, Virginia  
1-800-468-2722

*Working Together to Prevent and Combat Abuse and Neglect*

Thursday, June 2, 2005

8:00-9:00 Registration and Coffee

9:00-10:30 Welcome and Keynote Address

**Eldertopia: Creating a Better Health Span for Our Growing Life Span**

*William H. Thomas, MD*

Dr. Bill Thomas is an international authority on geriatric medicine and eldercare. He currently serves as president of The Center for Growing and Becoming, Inc., a not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting and developing constructive, holistic approaches to aging and the care of our elders. He is also president of The Eden Alternative, a research, consulting, and advocacy group committed to improving the care received by people who live in institutions everywhere.

10:30-10:45 Refreshment Break

Breakout Sessions:

10:45-12:15

**A. Medicaid Fraud**

*Randy Clouse, Office of the Attorney General, and Marian Dolliver; Senior Medicare Patrol at Virginia Association of Area Agencies on Aging*

This workshop discusses the most prevalent forms of Medicaid abuse and the benefits of empowering Medicaid beneficiaries to speak up and report suspected fraud. When beneficiaries, human services and health care providers, and advocates work together to address health care fraud, the result will be a more responsible and cost effective public health care system.

**B. The Future of Long Term Care**

*Dr. Bill Thomas*

Complex systems do not change when all is well; they change, rapidly and

sometimes catastrophically when things are bad. Things are bad. So, the real questions for today is what comes next, what will emerge out of the current disorder? I foresee a decentralized system care that resonates with the values of Warm, Smart and Green.

**C. Getting a Handle on Hoarding Behavior: Lessons Learned from the Field**

*Henriette Kellum, LCSW, Supervisor, Senior Adult Mental Health and Adult Protective Services, Arlington Dept. of Human Services*

This workshop provides an overview of extreme hoarding behaviors, a review of the thought processes and emotions of persons who hoard, an update on the current research on hoarding behavior, information on when and how to intervene, and Arlington's model Hoarding Task Force and case management procedures for dealing with hoarding situations.

**LUNCHEON: The Biennial Helen Napps Awards**

**Breakout Sessions**

**2:00-3:30**

**D. Adult Fatality Review Team**

*Sue Murdock, Adult Protective Services, Virginia Department of Social Services*

In an effort to identify hidden cases of adult abuse and neglect and to establish mechanisms for inter-agency collaboration, the Commonwealth of Virginia is considering developing a fatality review team. This workshop will discuss how reviewing the circumstances of death can prevent future instances of abuse and neglect against vulnerable adults.

**E. Combating Abuse in Long-Term Care Settings**

*Joani Latimer, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman*

A recent national study revealed that over 30% of nursing homes in the U.S. had been cited for abuse violations over a two-year period. This session examines the specific issue of abuse and neglect in long-term care settings; its signs and causes; strategies and resources for combating it; and the role of the ombudsman and the program's critical partnership with other community partners.

**F. Can You Tell Me Where It Hurts? Interviewing the Abuse Victim Who Suffers from Dementia**

*Sherry Peterson, MSW, CEO, Alzheimer's Association Greater Richmond Chapter, and Robert Shaffer, MPA, Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission, FBI (retired), and care partner*

This workshop investigates the pros and cons of interviewing persons who are in the various stages of dementia to determine injury, abuse or neglect. Discussion will focus on the possibility of overcoming language problems

(aphasia) and the loss of ability to carry out planned motor movements (apraxia) that might preclude pointing to the site of an injury.

3:45-5:00      Networking Break

5:00-6:00      Reception

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Friday, June 3, 2005

8:00-9:00      Continental Breakfast

9:00-10:30

**G. Nuts and Bolts of Starting a Multidisciplinary Team**

*Detective Bill Lightfoot, Domestic Violence Unit, Richmond Police Dept.*

This workshop provides information on overcoming challenges in building a multidisciplinary team for elder abuse and neglect cases, describing objectives and benefits of multidisciplinary teams, best practices, case review processes, membership, team activities, and administration. Discussion will review a variety of specialized teams: Financial Abuse, Rapid Response, Fatality Review, and Medical Focus Teams.

**H. APS 101: What APS Can and Cannot Do: How a Case Proceeds**

*Bill Parcell, Western Regional Adult Services Specialist, DSS*

How does an adult enter the DSS system and how are goals set and appropriate service needs mutually determined? Discussion will also focus on involuntary adult protective services and the process of identifying needs and goals.

**I. The Elder Law Attorney as the First Line of Defense/Offense**

*Andrew H. Hook, CELA, Oast & Hook, PC*

This workshop defines elder law and examines what an elder law attorney can do to reduce the likelihood of abuse and to remedy it.

10:30-11:00 Break

11:00-12:30 Closing Plenary

**Legislative Progress: Updates at State and National Levels**

*Bob Blancato, MPA, President, National Coalition for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, and President, Matz, Blancato & Associates, Inc., Washington, DC*

Mr. Blancato provides an up-to-date assessment of the latest activities on Capitol Hill and elsewhere related to adult abuse and domestic violence



issues, including the future of the Elder Justice Act, and information on the 2005 White House Conference on Aging scheduled for October.

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### **Accommodations**

VCPEA has reserved a block of rooms at the Virginia Beach Resort and Conference Center at the special rate of \$93 plus tax a night, single or double occupancy. Please make your reservations directly with the hotel by calling 1-800-468-2722 and requesting the VCPEA conference rate. Room reservations must be made by May 18, 2005 to receive this rate.

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### **Registration Form**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Needs \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Registration Fees: Check the appropriate category and the amount being enclosed.

VCPEA Member                \$115 \_\_\_\_

Non-Member                \$155 \_\_\_\_

On-Site Registration        \$175 \_\_\_\_

Advance registration deadline for this conference is May 23, 2005. VCPEA accepts checks or purchase orders. Because we become obligated for expenses at that point, we are unable to make refunds after May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Please make your check payable to **VCPEA** and mail your registration and fee to:

VCPEA 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
c/o Chesapeake Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 15125, Chesapeake, VA 23328

*For more information on this conference, please call Joyce Walsh at (757) 382-6883 or fax to (757) 382-8373.*

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### **Would You Like to Join VCPEA?**

*Now is an excellent time to join our coalition. Meet colleagues with similar interests and commitments. Develop networks and resources. Attend the annual conference and other events at reduced members rates.*

Individual Membership                      \$35

Organizational Membership              \$70

You may send your membership fee to the address above.

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